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6th Year

A vicious circle.

" De.Americanization" of the War of Aggression Will Fare No Better Than "Americani-

zation".

(Pages 4.5)

"THE U.S. representative to the Paris Conference has suggested six shapes of table for the Paris Conference. The tables are of different forms, but they all betray the meeting the implication of a "two-sided" conference. The U.S. and 'the Saigon pupper administration leep relusing a quadripartite conference with four delegation, but the properties of the U.S. and the Saigon pupper administration leep relusing a quadripartite conference with four delegation. DRVN, the NFL, and public opinion at large.

Everythody still remembers

opinion at large.

Everybody atill remembers
that in April, 1988, after U.S.
President Johnson had decided the 'limited bombing' of
North Viet Nam and declared
his intention to proceed
prompitly' to peace', the
Lore of sites, which were
completely unacceptable, to
try to delay the talks between

the DRVN and the U.S. Now, proposing a set of differently basped tables, including ones of incongrusus forms, it only tries to deny the independent and equal status of the NFL delegation. By scheming talls on the Southing foll recognition to the NFL as the genuine representative, organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against the aggression and the peaceful settlement of the South Vietnamese of the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against the aggression and the peaceful settlement of the South Viet Nam conflict. For all this, the U.S. the DRVN and the U.S. Now,

For all this, the U.S. government is shamelessly claiming that owing to its goodwill the Paris talks have made 'progress'. On December 27, 1968, Mr. Johnson declared in Washington that these was accurate. that there was every reason

to believe that 'progress' could be made at an early date at the peace negotiations in Paris. Certain people in the U.S. railing circles have even alleged that it is because of the attitude of the Saigon administration and of the DRVN that the Paris Con-ference cannot get under way. All this is sheer nonsense

and slander. It must be made clear again that the main responsibility for the delay of the Paris conference rests with the U.S.

U.S. MAINLY TO BLAME FOR CONFAB DEADLOCK

(A commentary by Nhan Dan on Jan 5., 11/x))

Indeed, as early as October 3t, 1968, the outgoing U.S. President announced that the President announced that the Paris Conference on Viet Nam would open on November 6, 1968 with the participation of the DRVN, the NFL. the U.S. and the Saigon pupper administration. Immediately after that, following the outcry of the puppets in Sai-gon, the U.S. State Depart-ment on November 26 anment on November 26 an-nounced that the conference would comprise 'two sides' would comprise 'two sides' and intimated that the Thieuand intimmend that the Thiese Ky-Huong clique might 'play a leading role'. Ever since, during the discussions of procedural matters, the American representative on American representative on American representative on the control of the control of the ention to tone up the image of the puppets of the U.S. in Saigon, while trying, one was a substitution of the control of the hard of the NFL WOA on December 90 hast quoted Rostow as saying that the U.S. did soot want the NFL with the other delegations.

Had it not been for the backing of the U.S., the Sai-gon pappet administration would not have the check to behave so arrogantly. On his arrival in Paris, Nguyen Cao Ky the traitor clamoured

for the 'liberation' of Ha-noi (!). And Nguyen Van Thieu the traitor parrotted on New Year's Day the same on New Year's Day the same abusive words; taught him by his American bosses. The U.S. is trying to make it seem as if it was the Sugon administration alone that was opposing negotiations whereas the U.S. was willing, and as if it was because of the un-willingness of the Thieu-Ky-Honge clique that the Paris Huong chique that the Paris conference could not begin, despite U.S. pressure. This despite U.S. pressure. This amounts to saying 'the tail was the dog' as certain Americans put it in reference to the relations between the U.S. and its puppets.

It is common knowledge that the Saigon puppet admi-nistration has been created, fostered, aided and aborted by the U.S., whereas it is hated and spurned by the South Viet namese people. Without and spurned by the South Viet mamese people. Without U.S. troops and weapons, this administration cannot survive even for a single day. Now, the loss of the initiative, stallensate and setbacks of the U.S. and its puppets maturally given itse to divergences, sometimes very sharp, among them; nevertheless the U.S. still

(Continued page 2)

1968. A YEAR OF VIET MAM PEOPLE'S PERSEVERING STRUGGLES ON DIPLOMATIC FRONT

THE year 1968 opened with the resounding echoes raised throughout the world by the Dec. 29, 1967 important statement of DRVN Foreign Minister Nguyen Day Trinh: "The position of the Visit-

Nguyen Day Trinh:

"The position of the Vietnamene people is quite clear",
be said. "That is the four
points of the DRVN Government and the Political Programme of the South VietNam National Front for Liberation. That lend of the
settlement of the
settlement of the Viet Nam
question.

"The U.S. Government."

a. The U.S. Government that the mean uncessingly calained that been uncessingly calained that the mean that the mean that the mean traily wrats to talk, it must, as has been made clear in our Jan. 28. Yellow the mean that the mean trail was the mean that "The U.S. Covernment

WASHINGTON DRIVEN INTO A CORNER

S INCE early 1965, as the air war of destruction against North Viet Nam was started and American troops were sent en masse to South Viet Nam, the U.S. to South Vict Nam, the U.S. paywar machine was put in action to proclaim from the housetops that the American rulers were deeply attached to peace. If their propagands was to be believed, they exceed to be particularly in the DRVN. "Discussions without conditions, negotiations without conditions,

tions," so ran their formula. The language was crafty indeed, but it could not conceal some tricks used by Messrs Johnson, Rusk and Co: What do the "discussions or negotiations without conditions" mean if not to talk with an interfection of the country of the c with an interlocutor at whom a gun was pointed? To negotiate with Hanoi while bombs were raining on the DRVN, wasn't that a rather simple way for Washington to secure a posi-tion of strength right from the start?

On Jan. 28, 1967, Mr. Ngu/en Duy Trinh made it clear for the U.S. rulers to understand what could help understand what could help the talks between the DRVN and the U.S. begin if the U.S. really wanted such talks. The American The American ruling circles were truly at a loss as a result of this statement. While continuing their war escalation in the North as well as in the South, they well as in the South, they had nevertheless to say something to soothe public opinion. First, in announcing their famous "San Antonio formula" (of Sep. 29, 1957). This formula, purposedly awaye, said that the US would end the bombing of wear applied conductive to productive discussions, and "we would assume that while discussions proceed, North Viet Nam would not take advantage of the bombing cessation or limitation." ing cessation or limitation."
It would not be difficult for a shrewd observer to find that that subtle formula implied however the condi-tion of 'reciprocity' already sternly condemned by every-

Another means used by Washington to distract the world's attention from Mr. Nguyen Duy Trinh's Jan. 28,

1957 statement was the raising of doubts for Instance, on its value as an affirmation ('would an end to the bombing get the talks going ?) or on its earnestpess ('what should be the raising of any should be the ects of eventual talks?") he DRVN Foreign ister's words on Dec. Minister's words on Dec.

(Continued page 2)



No enemy stronghold is immune from PLAF attacks

5 ENEMY COMPANIES WIPED OUT OR DECIMATED On the Saigon and Da Nang Fronts/

- O More than 200 South Korean casualties in a fortnight in Binh Dinh province.
- 30 vessels and cargoes sunk or burnt by the patriots between Dec.8 and Jan.5.
- 220 planes and helicopters shot down or damaged in 2 months on the Saigon front.

U.S. MAINLY TO BLAME FOR CONFAB DEADLOCK

(Continued from page 1)

has the lost word in all matters concerning it and its puppers. Senators Mc-Govern and Young have rightly termed as er mini the ring-leaders of the Saigon administration them puppet administration, thus putting them in their proper place as lackeys of the U.S., and showing the U.S. what it should do if it really wants to take part in the Darie Conference and actile peacefully the question of

To be I'S asseillingsteen to give up its dark design to annex South Viet Nam and turn it into a new-type colony, and its consequententian to cling to Samon administration as an

instrument to this effect. that lies at the bottom of the Saigon quisling regime. December 30 last revealed that the U.S. government would spend an additional would spend an additional 3.8 billion dollars for the Viet Nam war this year. AP on December 22, 1968, reported that U.S. officials Saigon were speculating about a longterm involvement of the U.S. in Viet Nam. World Report December 2, 11/08, 75 Ame-tican officers and civilians being trained representatives of the ITC government in South Viet Nam provinces. (...)

But. U.S. stubborness will only invite on it still heavier setbacks. There can be only one path for the ITS to rable peace': 'honourable peace': end the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam, take all U.S. troops home, and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs line with the Political Proimmediately, the U.S. must that the quadripartite conference in Paris can begin soon, and conditions can thus be created for the praceful settlement of the Viet Nam issue on the basis of the respect for the Viet. namese people's basic national rights (...)

REASONABLE PROPOSALS SYSTEMATICALLY TURNED DOWN BY USA

with Ambassador Cyrus Vance on the afternoon of January 2. 1969 to conti-Ambagander Ma Van Lan with the consent of delegation of the South Nam NFL, proposed the

cept,
a) The DRVN and the
NFL will agree to the dispensing with the flag and name
plate of each delegation at

order at the first session, it is the DRVN delegation's view that all the four delegations should draw lots

as already proposed by the DRVN. However, in view of the refusal by the U.S. and Salgon administration, the DRVN suggested that its dele-gation and the U.S. delegation speak next and let either of 2- The DRVN proposed meet on January 6, 1969, to

following: unsalit sound table at which each delegation may take a seat of its choice, which a seat of its choice, which shape will be free from the implication of either a two-sided or a four-party con-

ble for the prolongation of the two-month deadlock of the quadripartite conference the Viet Nam question

procedural arrangements.

All these reasonable ropo

Cyrus Vance who insten

two with the obvious inten

tion to maintain the absurd

"two-sided conference"
viewpoint of the U.S. and

ed many types of table

tt ontinued from page 1)

of all such artful quibbles. They affirmed unconditional cessation the bombing and all of the bombing and an other acts of war against the DRVN. The anwers given by the Foreign Minister to an AFP corresdondent on Feb. 8, 1968 autiliants of supptual talks: "The relevant quessettlement of Vietnam problem on the Agreements, they are also the other questions which could be raised by either

So Washington was driven into a corner. The position unanimous welcome. "Never Government publicly held out such a prospect to these eventual talks and so clearly given to understand that it subscribed to the desire subscribed to the desire productive", commented AFP on Feb. 9, 1958. "A new initiative by North Victnam's Forcign Minister has now cleared away some commented of the remaining obstacles to peace talks with the U.S." said the New York Times various political horizons, Covernments of Sweeden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, all stressed the necessity for the U.S. to unconditionally halt bombing as a first bombing as a first step without which nothing could be started. And a large number of American personalities were of the same opinion.

ESCALATION IN SUGGES-TIONS OF A PLACE FOR CONTACT

WASHINGTON did everything to rything to dodge the blow. Mr. Johnsop-publicly demanded that "new signs" be given by Hanoi before ending the Mr. Rusk, in his

1968, A Year of Viet Nam People's Persevering Struggles on Diplomatic Front

ed Mr. Nguyen Duy Trinh's words "propaganda gesthe San Antonio formula form and let it be under stood that in case of talks, Southwards transportations not above the normal level would be "acceptable

Meanwhile the escalation went on in North Viet Nam and U.S. reinforcements arrived in the South. Unfortunately enough, things did not run smoothly for the Americans: the 2,800 th plane was downed in North Viet Nam on March ultra - modern fighter-bom was bagged on March . Above all, the generaligad offensives and wide spread uprisings of the South Vietnam people and armed forces in the days following TET — events following TET — events which U.S. propaganda tried their best to describe as unimportant - had their impact in depth, penetrastrategic posture of the U.S. aggressors. On March 22, 1068. Westmoreland was sacked from his post as commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam.

March 31,1968 saw the first U.S drawback of far-reaching effect: Johnson went to the television and dramatically declared that from now on the U.S confined itself to a "limited fombing" of North Viet Nam. He added that this limited bombing would end only "if our reswould end only "If our res-traint is matched by restraint in Hanoi". And in the favour of such a bombing limi-tation, Johnson declared," the II.S is ready to send its representatives to any forum, at any time to discuss the means of bringing this war to an end" the 1068 same March speech, 31, 1968 speech, Johnson who had dismissed Westmo-

reland only a few days back,

diamissed himself in announ

cing his withdrawal from the presidential race

By declaring the "bombing limitation" and by renewing their offer for talks, the could return the ball to Hanci Great was their surprise when three days later, on April 3, 1968, they received the text of a major statement ment. This statement first gave on analysis of the puble signification of the IIS decision to "limit the

"This was an admission of failure but at the same time, a crafty trick of the U.S Government to placate public opinion. In fact, the US Government keeps sending more U.S. troops to South Viet Nam, makes every effort to strengthen the puppel army, and asks for addiappropriation to pursue its fact, the United States continues to bomb an impor t part of the territory 17th to the 20th parallel and refuses to stop unconditionally the bombing raids and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the DRVN"

The statement went on to

"However, for its part, the Government of the DRVN declares its readiness to appoint a representative to contact a U.S. representative with a view to ascertaining with the American side the unconditional cessation of the U.S bombing raids and all other acts of war against the DRVN so that talks may be started going ".

The April 3,1968 statement was closely followed, on April 8,by another statement by Mr. Nguyen Duy Trinh, in an

correspondent, Mr. Trinh said that preliminary contacts between the DRVN and the U.S might take place in Phoem Penh at ambassado

As American commentators Rowland Evans and Robert Nevale (USIS, April 4,1068) remarked, not a single Ame tican diplomat expected the DRVN Government to respond so quickly and so positively to Mr. Johnson's March 31,1968 speech. The American rulers-to say the truth-never rulers—to say the truta-never wanted any serious talks. They nevertherless insisted on prompt talks? believing— that the Vietnamese side would find them unacceptable. But the challenge was met; after the complete, uncondiing, but right now Hanoi was for preliminary contacts.

The ground was cut under Washington rulers' feet. What was left to them was to exert their talent in dilatory couvres. At first, they turn ed down Phnom Penh because from the absence of a U.S. mission". After the Vietnamese side proposed Warsaw as an additional place, they put forth two "minimum stan i.e. the contacts dards" i.e. the contacus should take place in a neutral country where both sides maintain a mission and have adequate communications. It should however be recalled that Messra, Johnson, Rusk and Co had who know for how many times - and even in the presidential statement of March 31, 1968 - declared that they would be ready to go anywhere at any moment, "a room and a table" for Mr. Johnson to send there his closest and most trusted an escalation in Washington's terms. To the two above-cited

added two more; the place Saigon puppets and other satellites of the U.S. have on encolation in the offer of ed five capitals, then a few of those places Hid not even meet the conditions raised by Kuala Lumpur or Vientiane

One may easily understand the unanimous condemnation that befell the men in Wa-

Once again it fell to the DRVN Government to give a positive proof of its goodwill, May 3, the DRVN Foreign Ministry made public a state ment the main part of which follows:

(in which the U.S.Government was using dilatory measures Editor) the Government of the DRVN is of the view ormal talks between Hanoi and Washington should held without delay. The has decided to appoint Minister Xuan Thuy as its repretalks with the U.S. Government's representative with a view to ascertaining with the cessation of the U.S. bombins raids and all other acts of war against the DRVN, and ther discussing other problems of interest to the two sides The Government of the DRVN welcomes the French Government's willingness to let Paris serve as site for talks between the DRVN and French Foreign Minister, Mr. Conve de Murville on April 18, 1968. The Government of the DRVN considers that Warraw is a suitable place two sides. This formal talks will begin on May to, 1968 or a few days thereafter.

to be continued)

THE NORTH-GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

N the past four years, the U.S. imperialist deployed a substantial part of their or means in attacks on haurs. But they have faled in their attempt at paralyzing people's courage and a sound munt the conditions of war. our economy which is a important progress.

To the conditions of war.

socialist industrialization has maintaining and promoting controlly rnn industry. gional industry has made big strides forward, and this has made it possible for regional economy to take shape and to bring into full play its role. The productive capability of the various regions his visibly raised. In many delta visibly raised. In many delta provinces like Nam Ha and Thai Binh and mountain provinces like Lao Cai and Lai Chan, regional economy have gradually become self-aufficient in terms of indispensable implements such as traditional or improved farm tools, small machines for agriculture, tools for handicrafts and have been able to manufacture some nec of life, thus strengthening the ties between agriculture and industry and making better of latent local notentia

The fledgeling industry of North Viet Num was by no means spared by American aircraft. Nevertheless, over aircraft. Nevertheless, over the same period, the key branches of the centrally-ran industry (electricity, engineer-ing, coal extraction...) has been developing or maintain-ing their production at a satis-factory level. In the years 1964-1967, gross output of the engineering industry grew at an annual rate of 8%, and at an annual rate of 8%, and the mining and chemical in-dustry, 6.8%. The coal mines in Quang Nich fulfilled their 1968 production plan 63 days shead of schedule. Light industry branches have also made headway. In 1968 gross output value of light industry topped the plan by 10%. In particular, textile industry produced an extra

SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN FOUR YEARS OF ANTI-U.S. STRUGGLE

NGHYRN VAN DAO. Vice Chairman of the State Planning Commission

ten million metres of textile as gifts to be presented neonte

Regional industry has been growing at a quick pace.
Many branches have even
surpassed the rate of deve-

lopment in peste time In the four years from 1965 to 1968, investments in regional industry development increased fourfold compared with the period 1961-1964; more than 1,000 state-run local industry establishments and 2.60 bandscraft cooperatives have been founded and put into commission. Reality has shown that it is fully anown that it is fully pos-sible and very practical to sible and very practical to build war-time regional industry. Take Quang Binh for instance. Only a few years back it had virtually no industry. But in four no industry. But in four years of war Quang thin has set up so industal bases supplying 40 items of goods of different kinds. Thanks to the development of regional industry, dustrial production conti-nued to rise at a fairly high rate right in the conditions of war. In 1968 total value of regional industrial

with 1967 and 39% compared with 1964 before the U.S. war of destruction started. Engineering industry, in particular, has increased manyfold. A network of engineering factories and shops has been established from the provincial and district levels down to the agricultural coops. rapid growth of the engineering industry in war time is a very important factor making it possible for North

center went up 13% compared

Viet Nam to advance vigorously and realize semi mechanisation and mechani mechanisation and mechani-sation of the various branches f production and raise quicksocial labour productivity.

Agricultural production holds an important role in the national economy of North Viet Nam. In the past few years, surmounting multiple difficulties caused by war and an unfavourable weather, agri-culture in North Viet Nam has never stopped its steady march forward. New, socialist production relations have be come more and more conso-lidated. The material and technical hones have continually reinforced. Agricultural production is vigo-rously forging ahead in the direction of intensive cultiva-tion and allround develop-ment, and has obtained encouraging results in food and foods toffs production. For all the difficulties, the localities that have reaped in two crops five toss or more of paddy per hectare in a year paddy per hectare in a year (as against 1.3 tons under the colonial and feudal regime) have bravely held their ground. Moreover, whereas in 1964, the year before the U.S. launched the war of destruction, only two districts and a few hundred co-ops reached that mark, in 1967 the number rose to 30 districts and 2,500 co-ops. In particular, two pro-vince-sized units, namely That Binh and the outlying area of Hanoi, have brought in five tons of paddy per hectare a year. In 1068 although heavy storms and water logging hit many areas in North Viet Nam, many localities reached this target. In the winter crop of In the winter crop of 1958, in spite of concentrated ene-my attacks on the "panhand-le" of North Viet Nam (so named because it is hemmed in between the Long Range and

the seal the people there put under crop a larger acreage than the previous year and rice output rose 18% over the same crop in 1967. In 1968, pig livestock went up 3.4% manad with tohy Enjoying an ever greater assi from industry, agriculture is

accumulating more experienmore vigorous steps of develanment Finance and trade activities have also recorded many achievements in the past few years. Owing the development of regional economy, the income of all the localities has been or the ungrade. The state budget has given priority to investments in the most important branches, especially to the evenue of regional econo trade has been broadening 90% of the villages have had their own supply and mar-keting co-ops. Thanks to the improvement of the distribution system, an adequate supply of goods has been ensured down to the con-sumers at the basic level. The total turnover of retail trade in the socialist sector increased annually by during the 1964-1967 period. an atrocious war the State has continued to ensure the supply of first necessities of the people in food, clothing, education and medical care at stabilized prices. In foreign trade, in spite of difficulties in transport, there has been a continual broadening of the sources of export lines and improvement of the reception and distribution of imported goods. The people's life,

tensively raided by the enemy remains stable and in some arous how even

Communications transport have been a totion with the assume was negativest are fold sta randa out communication lines in North Viet Nam compared with tons However, thanks to the entire people in the maintetennamort there has been a marked growth in the means of transport, simple and mechanized, and therefore, traffic has in the whole been kept open throughout the communication and transport branches have overfulfilled their transport plans, effectively serving the fighting, production and the people's

THE big and allround successes in economic build-ing and development in the past four years have largely contributed to the vic-tories of historic significance of the Vietnamese people in both the South ank the North These successes have helped atrengthen the economic and defence potentials and rein-force the rear to meet to the fullest extent possible the requirements of the front. They have also created extremely favourable condifulfil its economic tasks in the coming period so as to march forward together with the South Victnamese people and defeat the US. aggressors. Reality has vindicated the soundness of our Party and State's policy of economic reorientation in war time to ensure the realization in the best manner of the Vietnamese people's strategic determination which is to defeat the U.S. aggression and at the same time build

Education in the Anti-U.S. Fight

U.S. Attacks Only Bring the People Closer Together

(Thanh Hoa) hilled 3 members of the family of Ls Thi Xw, a 7th form pupil, and Le Dang Su, a 9th form school boy. That day, both were at school when a kemb wedgeting. They san home only to see a deep crater at the site of their house. Their mother and their two younger brothers vers no more

In. a vindictive spirit all schools in village Q. simil-laneously launched a campaign called "Helping friends after the example of Nguyen Ba pens, writing paper, school books and clothes was launched among village pupils. A few days leter, Xu and Su. wearing mourning ba returned to their classes.

returned to their classes.

Later on, U.S. aisreaft struck at village Q. again. This time a transport ear was set on fire. After the bomb explosion, teacher Hoann rushed to the steme and saw Su and Xu already there. They were consequently putting out the fire to save the car and careo. car and careo.

In the third U.S. raid. Nhung, an 11-year old pri-mary pupil, was wounded. When he fell down, Mui, his When he fell down, Mut. Mut. Class-mate, flew to his vescue. Seeing that his friend's leg was bleeding. Mut immediately took off his shirt, tore it

into strips to dress the wound. Nhung was sent to hospital. daily, bringing him gifts and attention. Although his wound had not healed yet, Nhung had not healed yet, Nhung asked to rajoin his class. In the first days, as the bandage could not be removed yet his friends again took turn in carrying him to school pick-

In another attack, a U.S. bomb completely wrecked the house of Quang, a 4th form pupil good al interature. Their house destroyed and their property completely lost, his parents, unable to support a large family by themselves, wanted him to drop out.

aged them to tide over their difficulties and keep him at school. Then the whole village and the whole co-op-pointed efforts to rebuild the house. They also gave financial aid, cloth and rice to help Quang's family back on their feel as before the bombing raid. Owang was thus able to conti-nue his education and, at the end of term, he was among the foily excellent pupils of the district selected to the prov-incial team of primary pupils to sit at the all North Viet Nam competitive examination for pupils who did well in

Teachers and villagers encour-

Formerly, educational work cornery, caucational work at village Q, was rated mode-rately good in the district. Since the village became a target of enemy attachs, along with progress in production and the lighting, education has also been advancing by teaps and bounds: there are now 11 classes for more than 300 adults;

many pupils of general edu-cation schools have passed examinations with excellent washe . the infant oducation the province. The U.S. aggressors have his

eillage Q. 12 limes and have left there the carcass of the 2,000th plane downed over North Viet Nam. Those educational achieve

ments amply justify the erection of a victory monument at the village entrance. A leacher should it to me and said, "Each enemy attach gives us added strength !

These words sound like a line of verse and has a ring of

(t) Nguyen Ba Ngoc was a pupit killed by a U.S. bomb while he was dedicatedly res-

Since then, the war of aggression has been "Americanized" at a redoubled rate, with a U.S. expedimen at the end of Sept. 1965 to more than \$35,000 at present, according to Western news agencies. The highest responsible officials in Washington and in satellite countries did not fail to show satisfaction with this decision "courageously" taken in spite of the general outery it had raised, seeing in it the sheet-anchor for the fate of U.S. neo-colonialist policy. And now both Districtant of the IISA and specessor are unanimous to find in the andless tunnel in which the U.S.

WASHINGTON'S DREAM

WHAT does this new orientation mean, when mean, what is its objective, what is behind it and what future awaits it ?

The contemplated "de-Americanization" consists, according to an article in the Evening Star on March 26, 1968, in beefing up and reorganiz-26, 1968, in beefing up and reorganiz-ing the puppet armed forces into a match for the people's forces in South Viet Nam. It would thus, according to UPI (Apr. 24, 1968), allow the Americans to shift the war burden from the abouders of the U.S. expeditionary corps on to those of the puppet armed forces and, at the same time, to scale down Gi direct

"DE-AMERICANIZATION" OF THE WAR OF AGGRESSION WILL FARE NO BETTER THAN "AMERICANIZATION"

articipation in the war.
To this end, various means have been envisaged and used.

On the one hand, the pupper for-ces must be increased through in-tensive draft, re-equipped with more modern weapons hitherto issued only to Gla and re-trained to be able to sustain the staggering blows dealt by the patriots in place of the expeditionary corps they are to replace gradually

On the other hand, efforts must be made to revamp the puppet ad-ministration and tidy up the ranks of reactionary political factions so as to knock them together into a sound prop for the puppet regime in Saigon.

In case this plan come off all right, the U.S. would find an "honourable way out" in South Viet Nam i.e. to phase out its expeditionary corps while maintaining a neo-colonialist ragime there

IN PULL TURMOU

OBVIOUSLY, Washington is trying to close a vicious circle.
As we have seen, after having "Americanized" the war to save the puppet regime and its armed the pupper regime and its armed forces from inuninent collapse in 1965, the U.S. government has begun to reverse the process. Is it because the situation of the Thies-Ky-Huong clique has a bit improved and the prospect of the U.S. war of aggression is brighter than before?

Certainly not! This new change of heart has come after the generalized offensives and popular uprisings of Jan. Feb. 1968 which inflicted, with the successive onslaughts (especially in March, May onsingers (especially in March, may and August), the most disastrous setbacks on the U.S.-puppers whose ultimate utter failure has eversince been left in no doubt, In fact, in the first week of the atfacks and upri-sings alone, from Jan. 3: to Feb.4. 1968, the special communiqué, N°2 of the PLAF command gave 50,000 enemy casualties including 10,000 Clis, and 200,000 pupped desertions. Since then, the situation has been only worsening for the aggressors and their lackeys who have had to give ground in all theatres of operagive ground in all theatres of opera-tion. Reuter recognized on Sept.20, 1968 that the PLAF was overwhel-mingly superior to the Americans and their "allies". And the fact that a C.-in C. was relieved of his office in the midst of the sname offensive was an undeniable sign that the game had been irremediably lost for his camp.

L.B. lohnson is not unaware. like his forebears, the pioneers of the Great West, what danger lies in the change of horses mid-stream. Yet, change of horses mid-stream. Yet, he has had to change not only the man responsible for the conduct of the war, but also the orientation given to it. Why?

> DOC TIPED OUT OF BREATH BUT OBSTINATE

HE first reason which has led the THE first reason which has led the White house to opt for "de-Americanization" of the war can be made plain by the following fact. The U.S. has substantially committed its forces and its potential to Viet Nam without, however, being able to avert defeat. A simple and same logic would have led it to radically logic would have led it to radically change its policy: renounce aggression, bring its "boys" home and leave the Victoiamess people to set the their owns affairs. But work of the constraint of objectives it has set for itself.

At the start of their aggression, the US imperialists opted for the puppet troops officered and control-ied by Yankee "instructors" and "advisers". This "limited" U.S. involvement in the war masked their nea-colonialist policy better.

However, the people of South Viet Nam refused to let be subjugated and it was the puppet troops that faced collapse towards 1964-1955 following their crushing reverses at Binh Gia and Ba Gia.

After that, Washington threw off its mask and the world witnessed a massive U.S. build up in South Viet Nam. The war became "local" Viet Nam. The war became "local" and was fought by two strategic forces: the Yankes expeditionary corps serving as a shield and the puppet army which relied on it to gain a breathing spell.

Once again, the U.S. plan was upset. The giant Yankee warrior, lavishly and cumbrously armed, was lavishly and cumbrously armed, was turned ridiculous by his adversary who "passesses eyes at the back of his head" as vividly put it by the American press itself. As for the moribund puppet clique it fared so better and saw its strategic role sink at its lowest ebb. With a logic which suits itself, Washington had no other choice than to raise level of "Americanization" of the powerful means at its disposal. Whether "local" or "limited", the U.S. war of aggression in South Viet Nam is one in which the degree of the use of military force has been the highest of all wars considering the highest of all wars considering the troop strength and means committed, the size of the battle-field and the population of the country where the operations are taking place. It has absorbed a very important part of the military, comomic and financial attength of "affluent America" and has landed it into insoluble difficulties in all respects, political, military, economic, financial, social, diplomatic,...
in the U.S., in Viet Nam and in Another reason which has motiva-ted this "recurrent" orientation stems from the ever growing wave of protest against the cynical, open aggression that this war "Americanized" to the highest degree is. In the U.S., the inner-contradictions exacerbated to the extreme threaten exacerbated to the extreme threaten to tear to shreds the very political and moral fabric of U.S. society. In the world, the U.S. becoming, as its old friend, Lord Montgommery, has sharply remarked, the most hateful nation of the globe, is in utter isolation, political and moral, which is an absolutely unbearable isolation.

These are the real movers of the "de-Americanization". The myth of a marked improvement" of the situation of the aggressors and their puppets cultivated by Washington thus appears as lame lie.

THE VICTORS CIRCLE

HERE will this "de-Ameri-canization" lead to? In the first place, it constitutes on the part of responsible U.S. officials a public avowal of the officials a public avowal of the mistake they have committed by dispatching an enormous expedi-tionary corps to our country and an overt admission of the failure they have sustained here. However it is by no means an efficient remedy for the fatal crisis the U.S. war of aggression is experiencing. This is a bitter fact, not a hypothesis or theoretical speculation.

On the South Viet Nam battlefields, the U.S.-puppet forces are finding themselves more critically than ever on the strategic defensive and have lost all hopes to regain the initiative from the hands of the

Since Spring to68, the U.S.-puppets Since Spring 1968, the U.S.-puppets have been behaving like a boxer who, driven against the ropes, seeks the best way possible to protect himself against the blows delivered the finest free and who launches offensive blows only in an attenual to get out of a real fix.

The plight of the puppet army and administration is at present desperate. Serving an anti-national cause, witnessing the serious defeats suffered by the U.S. troops and the crimes perpetrated against their own crimes perpetrated against their own country and compatriots by the U.S. aggressors and die-hard trail-lors, victims themselves in the flesh or in their families of atro-cities and brustlaties at the hand of these "conquerors" and, further-more, awakened by the unitring agitation of the patriots, this armymen and personnel of the puppet apparatus are less and less the obe-dient servants trusted by the U.S.

Cases of desertion by whole units (up to company-size), of collective disobedience (up to battalion and even regiment size) and of armed opposition to the U.S. and pappet authorities are new and alarming indications, inasmuch as they are getting more and more frequent

On Dec. 7 last, Washington Post estimated that the number of desertions in the pupper regular army in 1968 doubled compared with the provious years. Gain Phong Press Agency put at 510 the total (incomplete) of, rebellions in the pupper army in Jess than a year since Jan. 31, 1968: some tens of thousands of ous valets have thus been render ed harmless and an important quan-tity of arms, ammunition and war material destroyed and seized by the insurents.

Lets us mention some recent cases Lets us mention some recent cases which illustrate this inexorable process of disintegration. At the beginning of Nov., in Can The province (Mekong Delta) 174 soldiers of puppet Regiment 33 failed to report at the roll call in a single day. On Nov. 8, at Nhong Pass, in the coastal

province of Binh Dinh, Central Trung Bo, a garrison of the "Army of the Republic of Viet Nam" mutinied, killing or wounding 40 Gls, setting a record number of Gls put out of action at one go during rebellions in Central Trung Bo. A month later, in Katum, Tay Ninh province, pup-

in Katum, Tay Ninh province, puppet Ranger company 3,3 mutined. killing the U.S. Major "ndviser" and several cruel puppet officers. Two other companies, the 344th and 345th, ordered in to repress the 343th, refused to comply and many of their men threw down their weapon and took off their uniforms. Most recently, on Jan. I. 1969, puppet Ranger com-pany 381 freshly transfered to Duc-Hue, near the Cambodian border to the Northwest of Saigon, categorically refused to take part in an operation launched in cynical disregard of the Year truce ordered New Year truce ordered by the to take disciplinary measures, all the abandoned their post and crossed over to the PLAF side along with all their armements and kits.

So, the puppet army in the service of the Americans is, according to Don Tate, a Scripps Howard cor-respondent, reputed for its dashing appearance but incapable of fight-ing. Its strategic role keeps dropping almost to insignificance, some-thing which confirms the failure of the "de-Americanization" move.

As for the Salgon administration, standing rivalries and quarrels, more or less open, between the two top traitors—Thieu and Ky. two top traitors—Thies and Ky, and among various reactionary cliques. Its influences with the people creanism seasingless as it was before and the town and country loiks are abhorring more than ever before the aggressors and their valets. This was acknowledged by the Director of the Saigon Buratu of UPI who, after his its months in this city, bitterly moted on July 41, 4998 that there

American feeling among the section of the population with which he

ODICINAL RESULTS

EVERYTHING shows that "de-Americanization" has already failed essentially before it was started. The war imposed by the U.S. on our people is irremediably last for those who unleashed it. In that not these with undergotter that party nor that person who is at the buttom of the U.S. defeat. The aggression was initiated under a kepublican administration and has Republican to the result of the trust of the trust with Johnson or Nixon, Eisenhower of John Kennedy, the power of the trusts would not other-wise in the Viet Nam problem and could absolutely be unable to find occurred to the could absolutely be unable to find the and at an norther this etentam the key to victory. Because a truth has been established in Viet Nam: "In our era, a people, even Nam: "In our era, a people, even with a not very vast territory and not very large population, but courageously standing up in the struggle for their independence and freedom, armed with a correct line, freed by a great determination to fight and at the same time knowing well how to fight, will defeat any

The original blemish, the Achilles beel of the US Viet Nam policy, lies in its neo-colonialist, reactionary and anti-popular character. So long as and anti-popular character. So long as this policy is not brought to an end, no "honorable way out" can be found by the man in the White House, be he a Democrat or a Republican.

speech on the occasion of the 24th anniversary of the founding of the Viet Nam People's Army - See

TURN ON THE CUN AND ACHIEVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE

(The story of a patriotic insurgent armyman told by himself)

I come from Long Trung village, Cai Lay district, My Tho pro-vince, with the Ba Dua city district tightly kept under U.S.-puppet control. The villagers lived wretched life.

My family was landless. We lived on fishing and could hardly make both ends meet. All day and night, I laboured at catching fish and cravfish in the river to earn some crayish in the river to earn some money to buy rice for a bare subsis-tence. Sometimes the catch was bought at cheap price or soized by puppet officials and soldiers.

At the end of 1963, the Liberation At the end of 1963, the Liberation Army swing into action and the people rose up. Long Trung was liberated and in a festive mood. The market place was clean and orderly. Best of all we were free from the brutality of the Republican soldiers. I was well conaccous that liberation meant freedom and

This did not last long, U.S. and puppet troops re-occupied my havoc in the hamlets. Mourning came to many families. Domestic animals were killed in large number For three months running, there

had been only bombing, shelling,

I had a wife and seven children to feed. I dured not move out for my routine occupation and so my family was driven into abject poverty. I had to send my wife and children to seek support from my step father and step mother. As for me, I decided to me, I decided to go on fishing at the risk of my life to Jubsist. Soon after, I was arrested and taken to a police station where I received a good beating. Then a police agent coerced me into serving as a civil guard. I declined. He resorted to oth a smooth and a hard line. You are allowed to visit the market and have something to eat! he told me. "Then come back here and get your military uniform." When I arrived at the market, people who knew me gathered around me and showed great kind-ness to me. This moved me to ness to me. This moved me to tears. I thought to myself. "I'm not afraid of miseries and beatings. There is nothing more painful than to be drafted into the army." I took a back street and fled home.

Next day, I visited My Tho market to fetch a friend of mine when I was rounded up by police. I was sent to

the Quang Trung military training

I underwent four months' hard training, deprived of overything. Army contractors and officers were all grafters. Without money and without relatives, I was overwhelmed

The term own: I was transferred to Battalion 3, Regiment 11, Division 7, which was stationed at Hung 7, which was stationed at Hung Vuong military centre in My Tho city. One month later, my wife came and saw me after 6 months' separa-tion. Upon seeing me, my wife sobbed and could not hold back her tears.

I did not immediately answer my wife's question but asked her about what had been my greatest worry.
"How are the children?"

My wife gave me a reassuring answer. I asked her again. "How can you and the children manage to maintain yourselves? Are you in

Behind me stood two army security agents from when I did not know. "Is it your wife?" they asked.

" Yes." "Where does she come from?" "From Cai Lay market."

I told my wife to return home and I told my wife to return home and see me again early next month. She grew thin visibly because of the mi-series of life and the hard times to feed the seven children. I appointed the time but still did not know where the time but still did not know where to could get the money to give my wife when she came back next month. Every month, the commanders cut the salaries of their men, covering apending on clothing, medical care, food and even funerals (the monthly casualty rate was very high and each soldier had to contributed from 50 to 100 piastres). At the end of the month, everybody found little money left to buy cigarettes, and thus any idea of sending some to his family was quite out of the mark. I was sad

Once, during a raid my company arrested a young man hidden at Trang Xe. He was harvesting rice and took refuge there upon learning of the raid. Some scoundrels, suspect-ing hom of being a guerilla, beat him brutally. The young man was wrap-ped into a plastic bag and kicked until he lost consciousness. The sight of this shocked me considerably. The words of a cadre came back to my mind, "So long as the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys remain on our soil, our fellow-countrymen are still subjected to massacre, beating, plunder and all kinds of atrocities."

One day, in great dejection, I took a stroll on Route 28 along the Methong river. Seeing fishing boats bobbing up and down on the rolling waves, I remembered my old days when I lived in freedom by my dear

enes. That life was no more. It had ones. That life was no more. It had been snatched away by the enemy. Now, I myself was serving as a puppet soidier within despicable bounds, sinful to my own compatriots. I gave a long sigh. Suddenly I noti-ced someone moving towards me. I recognised him as Thao, a mate in my company. He looked gentle and had many times unburdened himself with me far into the night. His family also lived in poverty. milly also lived in poverty. He remained single. Since he was drafted into the army, his old mother has been left without proper care. Than and I sat talking intimately on the river bank for quite a long while. In the cold mist, my heart warmed up and my eyes began to blow, and I feit an impulse to do something.

That night, at c, an order was issued for an operation. The soldiers grumbled and tursed. I deliberately tayed in so that I could meet my stayed in so that. I could meet my wife next morning. I had no money left to send bome and felt very and. After my wife had left, I began to worry about what was in store for me when I reported to beadquar-ters: unmistakably, I would recei-ve a flogging, have my hair cropped and be locked into the stockade. Desertion might be a better course.

I remembered what Thao told me the previous night and decided to remain. I should remain to settle accounts with the Yankees and the scoundrels.

I returned to the barrack and reported to the company comman der. He showered abuse on me and struck me at the face and the struck me at the face abdomen. I succombered. He pulled

me up by my hair and kicked at my face. I had several teeth broken and blood oozed out from my nose and blood oozed out from my nose and my ears. I felt a shooting pain at my left side and got bruises on my head and my face. My head ached and I could hardly open my eyes. Nevertheless I did not groan and ask for morey. The company commander then ordered a soldief to crop my hair in a line that ran from my forehead to my neck.

I tried to regain my bed. Thao came to see me, bringing along some medicine. His care helped me recoup my strength, Hatred of the enemy ran high and the NFL call impelled It was mid-Inne. One afternoon

Thao took me out for a bath to map out a plain for action that very night. It was 8.10 p.m. and 5 minutes to H. hour. We moved in the direc-tion of the CP of Battalion 2 and within seconds wiped out all the battalion commanders with several bursts of fire. The machinegunner a thug-upon hearing the gustire looked into the building and did not know what's what. I gave him a pat on the shoulder, showed him some soldiers who were catching frogs outside and told him to go an back some for a drink. He hardly looked out when I pulled trigger of the R.to. He tumbled down and I lodged one more bullet into his head to finish him off, I charged into the barrack and moved 18 enemies with 18 rounds of fire.

At that moment, gunfire made a

thunderous din. The whole barrack was set ablaze. The Liberation fighters assaulted the position amidst roaring shouts. I moved back and seized the heavy machine gun with 1,000 cartridges and a case of hand grenades, all ready to go into action. The enemies surged out in an attempt to occupy the bunker and offer resistance. Giving vent to an attempt to occupy the bunker and offer resistance. Giving vent to my wrath, I pressed the trigger and mowed them down one group after another. The survivors stubcontinued the resistance. I bornly continued the resistance. I operated my-gun by short bursts with one band, and harled the hand granades with the other. Enemy corpses stacked up. The bunker was still out of the enemy's reach. I provided fire support for Thao to accomplish his mission.

After only 15 minutes' fighting, together with the PLAF we completely overran the barracks of Batta-lions 2 and 3. One of the PLAF leaders held my hand tightly in his and said, "You have fought very bravely and well deserve to be patriotic insurgent armymen." insurgent armymen.

I was filled with joy and could not say a word. The Liberation figh-ters now pressed attack on the camp of new recruits. I assisted them in demolishing the ammo dump. Thao joined another column in destroying the fuel denot and capturing prisonthe fuel depot and capturing prison-ers. The puppet soldiers surrendered in large number. The Liberation fight-ers urged the prisoners to give up, their careers as criminals and set them free on scene, Outside, the con-certed attack on My Tho city was

still in progress. Thao and I carried three guns each. As for me, I shot and killed a second licutenant and, seized his pistolet before joining the Liberation Army back to base safely.

Next day, the Front Comittee of My Tho city held a meeting to celebrate this victory with our partici-pation. For the first time I appeared on the rostrum amidst cheers. I felt very happy. Representatives of va-rious public offices shook hands with us and warmly congratulated us as if we were old acquaintances. Elderly people inquired about our families and our health. An old mother, in a trembling voice, said, " Had there been many patriots who act like you in the ranks of the Republican army, the Yankees would have been defeated long ago and Thieu Ky and their ilk would have no

I was deeply moved and made up my miled to act in such a way as to be worthy of the affection shown me by the Front and my compatriots. As long as the U.S. aggresors and their lackeys remain on our soil, our compatriots still experience untold sufferings. We must fight until complete victory

After an exchange of views, Thao and I called on the representative of the Front Committee of My Tho city fighting the U.S. aggresors and save the country.

CAO HOANH

THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FULLY SUPPORT THE POLITICAL PROGRAMME OF THE LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT (Neo Lao Haksat)

President HO CHI MINH's MESSAGE to Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

To Prince Souphanomuong, Chairman of the CC of the Neo Lao Hahzat.

N behalf of the Vietnamese people, I wish to extend to Your Highness. extend to Your Highness, the Central Commit-tee of the Neo Lao Haksat "Lao Patriotic Front" and the entire brotherly Lao people our warmest greet-ings on the occasion of the publication of the Front's Political Progamme.

The Political Programme spells out the judicio ine and the policy of broad unity of the Nec Lao Hakrat as well as the iron-like determination of the Lao people to defeat the U.S. imperialists' interven-tion and aggression in Laos. It is certain that their struggle will enjoy profound sympathy and widespread support from the peace and justice loving people all over the world.

The Virtnamese people fully support the Political Programme of the Neu Lao Halsat and are convinced that under the clearingthic leadership of the Neu Lao Halsat the brotherly Lao people will certainly record many still greater victories in their effort to build a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified and prospe

May the militant solidarity between the peoples of countries consolidate and develop with every nossing day !

I wish to convey Your Highness and the members of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat the assurances of my high consideration.

HO CHI MINH

GRAND KEETING IN HANOI

A meeting was held in Hanoi under the joint auspices of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front and the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee to welcome the new Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat (Lao Patriotic Front), and commenorate the 13th anniversary of the founding of the Neo Lao Haksat (Jan. 5, 1950).

delivered by Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central ommittee, member of the Presidium of the Viet Nam Committee, Ton Quang Phiet, Chairman of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee, adressed the rally,

Speaking of the great suc-cesses scored by in all fields by the Lao people in their anti-U.S. aggression fight, under the leadership of the Neo Lao Haksat headed by Prince Souphanouvong, he said, "These are an important turning point in the patriotic resistance of the Lao people against U.S. aggression which has increasingly tipped the balance of forces in favour of the Lao patriotic forces, plunged the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen into confusion and further exposed their aggressive and trai-

Dealing with the momentous significance of the Political Programme, Ton Quang Phiet pointed out:

The appearance of the Political Programme marks a new step in the development of the Law revolution. It is the fruit of the protracted, hard add heroic struggle of the Law people under the leadership of the Neo Lao Itsala (Front of Free Laos) in the past and the Neo Lac Haksat (Lao Patriotic Front) at present ".

ialists' flouting of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, their sabotage of the National Union Government which included representatives of the Lao Patriotic Front and the Lao neutralist forces, their "special war" against Laos and their use of war planes including B 528 in barbarous bombing of the

liberated areas. The audience unanimously passed a resolution warmly hailing, and pledging full support for, the Political Programme of the Neo Lao Haksat. It demanded that the U.S. imperialists strictly respect the 1962 Geneva expressed sincere thanks to the Lao people for their great and valuable support to the national salvation strug-

A Programme Full of Resolve to Defeat the U.S. Aggressors in Laos

(Excerpts from the Jan. 3, 1969 statement of the CC o 1) jet Nam Fatherland Front)

OVER the past 13 years, continuing and promot-ing the glorious traditi-ons of the Neo Lao Itsala, the Lan Patriotic Front (Nen Lun Haksat) headed by Prince Sou-phanouvong has been leading the Lao people in a resolute and extremely valiant struggle against the US imperialists and their valets, frontrating all their military and political schemes and winning great victories of important strategi significance in all fields. The liberated zone of Laos which covers two-thirds of the territory with half of the consolidated. The united front of the Lao people against the U.S imperialists for national sales in the constant of the consta for national salvation with as its core the solid alliance between the Lao Patriotic Front and the Patriotic Nentral at Forces has been fur ther strengthened and broadened. The prestige of the Lao Patriotic Front keeps increasing and so does its influence, at home and

At present, to reverse their extremely critical situation in Viet Nam and to make good their increasingly heavy setbacks in Laos, the U.S. imperialists are stepping up their "special war" in Laos with intensified raids against the Lao in their manoeuvre to prolong the war of aggression in Lace and maintain tension in Indochina and Southeast

In such a situation, on

the basis of the previous line of struggle for national salvation and national construction and in conformity with the present trend, the Political Programme of the Lao Patriotic Front has seen the light to supply guidance to the Lao people to develop their achievements so as to record still greater ones and march towards final victory.

The Political Programme of the Lao Patriotic Front most immediate task of the entire Lao people as follows: "To unite closely and step up the struggle to inflict failure on the neo-colonialist special war of the U.S. imperialists and overthrow the administration of their valets, traitors to the country, in order to build a peaceful, independent, neutral, demo-cratic, unified and prosperous Laos and contribute to the defence of peace in Indochina and Southeast Asia ".

It has laid down major policies in all fields for the attainment of the set political objectives, and to meet the aspirations of various strata of the people and preserve their legimate interests.

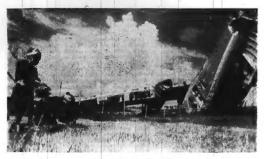
It has clearly expounded the foreign policy of the Lao Patriotic Front which is to defend the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity and territorial integrity of Laos, respect and scrupulously implement the tosa and 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laws and strengthen solidarity with other Indo-

chinese peoples and friend-ship and solidarity with the peace—and justice-loving people and governments all over the world.

It is clear that this Political Programme embodies the correct line of the Lao Patriotic Front. It is a programme of great national union and of determination to defeat U.S. jimperialist intervention and aggression

The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front warmly acclaims and fully supports the Political Programme of the Lao Pa-triotic Front. It is firmly convinced that put into pracconvinced that put into practice, this programme will instil considerable strength into the Lao people to win oven greater victories in their just struggle for the building of a penceful, inde-pendent, neutral, democratic, anified and prosperous Lass

The Vietnamese and Lan people are close comrades-in-arms who share weal and woe. The valiant, persevering and victorious struggle of the Lao people against the U.S. imperialists, for national salvation, provides an extremely valuable support for the Vietnamese people. The Viet-namese people pledge them-selves to stand shoulder to shoulder with the brotherly Lao and Cambodian peoples in the Indo:hiaese peoples' front and bring the struggle against the common enemy-the U.S. imperialist aggressor, to complete victory



A presents' production team of Khang Khay village, Xiene Khuang province (Laos), growing vice on the side of a U.S. plane wrechage

Week of International Solidarity with the Asian, African and Latin American People (Jan. 3-10)

REVOLUTIONARY STORM OVER THE THREE CONTINENTS

In Africa, three

countries—Mauritius, Swa-siland and Equatorial Guinea, recovered last year their political independence. Thus 42 African countries have reconquered their nation-

hood to varying degrees. The other countries keep up their drives for national

liberation: Angola, Mozam-

bique, (Portuguese) Guinea and Cape Verde, etc., while in Zimbabwe, South Africa

and Southwest Africa armed

and against reactionary edu-

TON OUANG PHIET Chairman of the Viet Nam Asian-African

THREE years ago, on Jan.
3, 1966, in the land of heroic Cuba, more than 500 delegates from 82 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America held the First Inter-continental Solidarity Con-This conference marked a new advance of the and demonstrated the soli darity and the firm will to fight and to win of the peoresolved to spearhead their revolutionary offensive against U.S.-led imperia-lism, colonialism and neo-

In Main, especially in South-East Asia, the revolutionary insurrections have been staged against racist rulers. movement has been surging ahead. After three successive In Latin America, following the 1967 Conference for victorious dry seasons, the South Vietnamese people have since early Spring 1963 been mounting waves of general offensives and have won un-Solidarity, the movement of national democratic revolution has made another stride forward. Besides armed struggle which is going on in Guatemala, onensives and have won un-precedented and all-round successes, driving more than 1,200,000 U.S. and pupper troops into a state of passive defence. In the North, the going on in Guatemala, Venezuela, Colombia, Dominica, Peru and Bolivia, guerilla activities have begun in Argentina, Puerto Rico and Brazil, The movement of workers, personal Vietnamese people have de-leated the war of destruction f the U.S. imperialists, and forced them to completely dents, teachers and intel-lectuals for better living conditions, land and housing, stop the bombardments the bombardments on whole territory of the

Laos, the people have been beating off the nibbling at-tacks of the U.S. - fostered cation, is growing. Clearly, last year the revo-lutionary storm in the three continents continued to attack tacks of the U.S. - lostered army. The 12-point Political Programme issued recently by the Neo Lao Hasksat (Lao the imperialists and their benchmen from all sides. the imperialists and their henchmen from all sides. U.S.-head imperialism pursu-ed its attempt to use "aid" to sway politically, militarily and economically those coun-tries which have regained by the Neo Lao Hasksat (Lao Patriotic Front) is strongly encouraging the Lao people to march forward and inflict complete defeat on the U.S. 'special war". In Cambodia the Khmer people have foiled the provocative schemes and independence. It organized series of military coups, established dictatorial reacts and threats by the U.S. and its benchmen in South Viet Nam and Thailand. For gimes, set up disguised mili-tary blocs and waged wars of aggression. But their frenzied their part, the patriotic forces of Thailand have expanded their armed struggle to at and perfidious schemes and acts could not dam up the revolutionary tidal waves in insurgents in the Philippines, Malaya and North Kalimantau the three continents. The Vietnamese people's war of resistance against U.S. continue fighting against the puppers to safeguard the puppets to safeguard and develop the revolutionary

aggression, for national salva-tion, is closely linked to the common struggle of the friforces. The Korean people keep up their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet continental peoples against the intervention and aggres-sion of U.S. - led imperclique for the abolition of the "ROK-Japan Treaty" and the withdrawal of U.S. for independence, ialiam. peace, democracy and social progress. The Vietnamese people's victories are also victories of the revolutionary troops from South Korea troops from South Korea and peaceful unification of the country. The Japanese people are engaged in vigorous actions against the U.S. imperialists and the nents and constitute a source of encouragement to them.
It is for this reason that the Victnauses people are rajoying ever growing sympathy and support from the peoples of the three continents. Sato reactionary Government. for the abrogation of the "Japan-U.S. Security Treaty" and the "Japan-ROK treaty", return of Okinawa to Japan, dismantling of the U.S. mili-

We take this opportunity to reaffirm our full support to the liberation struggle of various nations. We reassert tary base in Japan, peace and entratrality. In the Middle East, the armed forces of Yemen and our firm belief that the tri-Vemen, with continental people's struggle will record still greater sucactive co-operation of the people, have repulsed mili-tary attacks of the reaccesses. We sincerely thank them for their valuable tionary feudalists, henchmen of imperialism. The Arab support. olea are pushing ahead

VIET NAM COURIER

The Vietnamese people united as one man are striving

Israeli "aggressors assisted by the U.S. and British imperialists. to put into effect Presi-dent Ho Chi Minh's appeal and are determined to step up their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salva-tion till complete victory. They regard this as the most

effective way to observe the International Week of Solida-rity with the liberation struggle of the tri-continents contribution to the movement for national liberation in the world as a whole.

Division near Hon Quan, o5km north of Saigon, and pounded 3 cargoes on the Long Tau shipping channel; on Jan. 4 they assaulted the enemy at Hon Quan, on Jan.6 raided 2 adverse positions near Xuan Loc, oz km east — northeast of Saigon, and on Jan. 7 bom-barded a U.S. artiflery position, 60 km northeast of Saigon, and a subsector HQ at 7am fyru (31km south— southwest of Saigon).

In Western Nam Bo, near Rach Gia (195 km West-Southwest of Saigon) close to the gulf of Thailand, 3 vessels transporting GIs and South Korean mercenaries were sunk with all their passengers on Dec. 31 on a canal as they were taking part in a sweep in spite of the New Year truce decided by the NFL. In this provand Dec 25 while in the Ca Mau peninsula in the Southernmost part of the country 6 others were sent to the bottom and set afire company at ce vang as well as, on 2 occasions, the rein-forcements sent in by the enemy command, and des-troyed one company and decimated 2 other compagnies of the puppet army

company at Go Vong as well

Near Quang Ngai city (122km southeast of Da Nang), on Dec. 23 they intercepted a puppet battalion supported by 16 armoured cars and killed or wounded 70 enemy troops, destroyed 3 armoured

helicopter gunship. Lastly, also in Central Trung Bo, in Minh Dinh prov-ince bordering Quang Ngai countering an "accelerated pacification" operation under-taken by South Korean cenaries in the Phu My area (48km north northwest of Qui Nhon), the patriots put out of action 226 Pak Jung Hi troops in a fortnight

In the Western Highlands histed 4 choppers, 4 barrack-huildings and 2 vehicles buildings and 2 vehicles destroyed and 60 enemy casualties, during a shelling

MILITARY OPERATIONS

N Giai Phong Press Agency's reports this week prominence was given to 2 main theatres of prestion — the Eastern area of Nam Be, i.e. the Saigon front, and the constal frings of Contact Trust Park Contact Press of Prominent Contact Press of Prominent Contact Press of Press and helicopters actively con-ducted by fighters of all categories of armed forces in Eastern Nam Bo who were credited with bringing down or destroying on the ground 220 U.S. engines in all in 2 months, Nov. and Dec.

ON the fringe of Phuoc Binh provincial capi-tal, 117km north northeast of Saigon, the northeast of Salgon, the PLAF wiped out a company of U.S. "dying borseum" involved in a sweep against Bu Nhe village (8km south of Phuoc Binh) on Jan. 1, in disregard of the New Year truce observed by the NFL. Next day, at **En Luong** (1km north of Phuoc Binh) a company of puppet Regiment of experienced the same fate.

Further west, in Tay Ninh province, on the Oriental Vam Ge river, an enemy flotilla intercepted on Dec. 29, near Ben Cau, 70km north-west of Saigon lost 2 major landing-craft sunk along with all men on board, and at about 15km further downstream, 3 patrol boats were burnt by patriots' shells on the night of Dec. 30 to Dec. 31.
The urban and suburban

districts of Saigon were the scenes of several bold actions by the people's self-defence forces which punished zealous agents of the enemy in broad daylight. On the morning of Dec. 25, the morning of Dec. 28, the patriots broke into a local of the purpost administration of the puppet administration in a district of Cho Lon and cut down 4 traitors On Dec. 31, in the 5th On Dec. 31, in the 5th district, two notorious bullies paid for the crimes they had committed against the people.

Western news agencies

reported that, in Eastern Nam Bo, the PLAF violently attacked on Jan. 3 elements of the U.S. 1st Infantry

between Dec. 17 and Dec. 27.
The PLAF is reported by
Western news agencies to Dec. 31, punishing an eitensy have damaged on Jan. 5
a 1,000-ton Australian land-truce, the patriots knocked ing-craft carrying supplies for the GIs near Can Tho (130 km southwest of Saigon).

Near Cao Lanh provincial capital, 130 km west — south— west of Saigon in the Mekong Delta, the same sources revealed, major same sources revealed, major battles took 'place on Jan. 6 when the PLAF assaulted a company of the U.S. 9th infantry Division and then intercepted 5 other U.S. companies landed by helicopters to rescue the former.

former. The people's self-defence forces of Da Nang city, very active, took, in the 11 days ending Dec. 26, a toll of 112 adverse lives mostly police agents and the rest U.S. offi-cers. In the same period, they also destroyed 3 military vehicles, 3 barrack-buildings and a puppet administrative

Near Da Nang, at the HQ of puppet Regiment 51, on Dec. 15- last, armymen won over to the revolutionary cause blasted with plastics cause basees with pisates the room in which the offi-cers of this unit were gather-ing with their U.S. "advi-sers". Nine traitors and aggressors were killed, among them 2 battalion commanders, 4 "pacification" team leaders and a U.S. captain.

At 64km further southat 64km further south-southwest, near Tam Ky provincial capital, throughout Dec. 27, the PLAF engaged in heavy fighting a puppet

out 7 puppets and a U.S.

reported a heavy PLAF artillery attack on the Duc Lap position to the South of the northeast of Saigon, as well as a plastic charge which reduced to rubble the "Open arm" centre of Ninh Thuan province at Phan Rang, 255 km east northeast Saigon, on the night of Jan. 4 to Jan. 5.

N Eastern Nam Bd comprising the provinces sur-rounding Saigon, the PLAF downed or destroyed on the ground 220 planes and helicopters and killed or wounded hundreds of pilots Nov. and Dec. 1068.

Some of the most splendid exploits have been achieved by guerillas of a village of by guerillas of a village of Binh Long province, nearly too km north of Saigon, from Dec. 14 to Dec. 20, who knocked down 9 choppers with infantry weapons, cau-sing 190 casualties mostly GIs and received a Liberation Military Exploit Order First class. Guerillas of another village 40 km northwest of Saigon were awarded the same decoration for having grounded on Nov. 4 last 9 choppera, 6 of them on the spot, killing or wounding 40 GIs.

The squall that heralds a storm

people's solidarity and mili-tant attitude. The demon-staged by the Sargon students strators hept surging forward, shouting "Peace". Each tried to get to the forefront. It was an eloquent indictment of the American aggressors and their lackeys, and their cruel war of plunder.

Although interrupted by

bruial 1946, the demonstration staged by the Saigon students scored brilliant successes and had wide repercussions. Like a thunderboll it hit hard at the Thieu-Ky-Huone clique's lan 10.68 and paved the way for the revolutionary struggle of the Saigon people to storm

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT



Talks between the South Viet Nam NFI, and the Alliance of National, bemovatic and Peace Forces which resulted in the joint communique usued in early November 1655 — Centre: Lawyer Squyen Huu Tho and Lawyer Triah Digh Thao.

ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC AND PEACE FORCES CALLS FOR THIEU-KY-HUONG CLIQUE'S OUSTER

has released an appeal by the Central Com-mittee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Demoeratic and Peace Forces to the South Viet Nam townsfolks. It assessed the failure of the It assessed the failure of the U.S. imperialists and their henclinien and exposed their stiffnecked obduracy in con-tinuing to intensify the ag-gressive war, in using fascist methods to crack down upon everyone who resists them and in plotting to torpedo the Paris conference.

The appeal said :

"The South Vietnamese people unequivocally affirm Huong clique remains is cere desire for peace but only sabotage of peace, no true independence but only slavery, and no welfare and es but only poverty

"Therefore, the SVN city people, like their fellow-countrymen in the rest of South Viet Nam, who cargerdesire peace, indepen-

those bloodthirsty traitors continue to live on the

"The Thieu - Ky - Huong bellicose clique of traitors must be overthrown!

" A government that real wants peace and sincere talks with the National Front for Liberation with a view to an early and sensible solution to the South Viet Nam issue must be set up.

"Compatriots in South Viet Nam cities! Close in your ranks and march forward arlessly !"

THE SQUALL THAT HERALDS A STORM

(4 report on the Christmus night, demonstration staged by Saighn students from correspondent of the Gial Plung, militant organ of the Saigon people

O'N Christmas night last, at about 19 p.m. thou-sands of student repre-sentatives gathered at a place on thing Vuong street. With them were Cathalir as well on Hung Vuong street. With them were Catholic as well as Buddhist priests, justic-loving tenchers, worm-hearted intellectuals belonging to various callings and religious. They greeted Christmas with eager aspirations for peace, soung laden with grief, and eager aspirations for prace, songs laden with greef, and angry denunciations of the cruel. American war of aggression stateging the country. The men who "brought in alephants to trample on their ancestors' tombs", they

their anextoral tomba", they caid, were none other than the mutish and belicone Thiese-Ky-Huung clops, volets of the Americans, anger and harred lorsest forth thomseithe. When the xong "1 Speak the Voice of Man" ended, a student addressed the croud. "We want peace", he eried, "I've want focus of the condition o

take to the streets !" The unanimous answer to his words was a thunderous, "To the streets!". Like a dam

bursting. Their cries resounded in the nine wards of the city, and rang in the frightened ears of the American aggressors and their valets, the Thien-Ky-Huong clique,

In the front were placands reading :

"We appose those who hatch the barbarous scheme of pursuing the uar" (i.e. the stubborn and bellicose American aggressors and Thien-Ky-Huong clique).

"Cut the price of vice! Hetter living conditions for labouring people, soldiers and civil servants!"

civil servanta l'
From Hung Vuong atenue, the demonstrators went to Ven Do then Ky Dong street, exhorting as they marched along on the people to visu up against the cruel American wave of aggression, and to overthrow of aggression, and to overthrow the wilful and warlike Thien-Ky-Huong gang.

Many passers-by and people on their way to Christmas mas joined the demonstrators and chanted "Peace!". Police and troops watched with symand troops watched with symp-pathetic sys and showed support for the protesters. In their hearts of hearts, they opposed the oddurate Thiese-ky-fisions clique. They were determined not to obey the orders of the aggressors and trailors and suppress a popular movement struggling for aspirations which were also theirs

When the demonstrators reached Truong Minh Giang street, they were stopped by thugs of the Thion-Fry-Huong clique. Guns crashed. But the paraders heft their cod, vigor-ously resisted the armed raffi-ture. wereld back armed raffiously resisted the armed ruffi-ans, wersted bach arrested people, and went on with their protests. The Blood-thirsty janisravies, who had been killing and massacring for many years on orders from the dollar, suddenly were struck with panic in face of the

(Centinued page 7)

19th NATIONAL STUDENT DAY (January 9, 1969)

... Let all the youth and students of South Viet Nam dash forward courageously and, upholding their tradition of dauntless struggle, join our people in demanding withdrawal of the U.S., dismissal of the Thieu-Ky-Huong war cabinet, formation of a peace cabinet, negotiations with the Front to

> (Appeal of the South Viel Nam Liberation Students' Union and the Liberation Pupils' Union on the occasion of the 10th National Student Day).

Students' Struggle in South Viet Nam Cities

TH SATGON

Agency reported that, on Dec. 28, 1988 representation on Dec. 28, 1988 representation of the Sagno - ChoLon Giablinh Alliance of National Democratic and Peace Forces addressed an appeal to the Sagno - ChoLon Giablinh Alliance of National Sagnot - Cholon Giablinh Alliance of National Sagnot - Cholon Giablinh Sagnot - Cho

restore peace to the country."

The appeal said:

"Our fellow countrymen everywhere are proudly turning their gaze on us, a heroic young generation.

heroic young generation.

"We swear that we will live up to this strong confidence and rise up resolutely and struggle for the fulfilment of the nation's imperative aspirations, namely, independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country."

The appeal was signed by: Ho Buu Nhui, Secretary General of the Saigon-Cho Lon-Gia Dinh Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, ex-president of the General Association of Saigon Stu-dents, President of the Saigon Movement for Autonomy; University

Le Quang Lec, member of the Saigon - Cho Lon - Gia Dinh Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces and President of the Executive of the Student Union aigon Faculty of Letters; and

Tren Thien Tu, member of the Saigon - Cho Lon - Gia Dish Committee of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, ex-Secre-tary General of the Student tary General of the Student Representation of the Phu Tho National Centre of Technology and ex-President of the Student Representation of the National School of Agricultural Engineers.

IN QUANG NAM

THE youth and pupils of Tam Ky city (Quang Nam) are stepping up their struggle against the "civil defence" organisation their and the so-called "pupil battalion" of the U.S. and battalion" of the U.S. and the pupper administration. Pupils of Cao Van School are unanimous in boycotting the Pupil Battalion. They have also protested against the pupper administration's for-ing them to sign a petition acclaiming the Nguyen Cao Ky delegation to the Paris conference. Pupils of Bo De walked and of lance thy have walked not of lance thy have walked out of classes ru reactionary American teachers.

Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee Set Up in BINH DINH

A FTER revolutionary pow-er had been established in the liberated villages in the liberated villages and districts, Binh Dinh prov-ince recently held a people's Congress to choose its own suling body.

The meeting elected a 9-man People's Revolutionary

Committee with Nguyen Trung Tin as its chairman and a woman and a represent-ative of minority peoples among its members. The comamong its members. The com-mittee shortly afterward con-vened its first session, to review its overall situation of the province and work out a programme of action.